

**From:** Ted McFadden  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 12/18/01 12:55am  
**Subject:** Microsoft Antitrust Suit

To whom it may concern:

I was made aware of this e-mail address by an online forum, and wish to contribute my opinion to the trial, for whatever it may be worth.

Microsoft makes itself to appear harmless, but in fact they are a gigantic international monster, crushing any and all competition in its path to maintain its own kingdom. While this in itself may not be a bad thing, consider that the ideal Microsoft world basically consists of us "low-life" consumers feeding them money on their own terms. Microsoft does not care whether the customers are happy; they simply want money, and they will do anything in their power to get it. Recently, Microsoft has been issuing progressively worse software (starting with the release of their Windows 95 operating system, and continuing today in the form of their Windows XP operating system), but a lack of a real choice has subjected many (including myself) to Microsoft's whim.

As an American who believes in the freedom to choose, I object to Microsoft's continued abuse of their monopoly power, especially after having been disciplined once. Microsoft was given a second chance by the 1995 Consent Decree, issued by the highest law of the land (our own Supreme Court). They not only disobeyed the Decree, they insulted the very heart of our judicial system by doing so. The punishment for doing so should \*NOT\* give them the chance to extend their monopoly power further, as the current proposed settlement would allow. I, personally, am all in favor of Microsoft donating money instead of software and hardware, to let the said schools choose their own preferred route. Not only that, Microsoft should make information about competition available to the said schools, so the schools can make an informed choice. If the schools choose to go with Microsoft's software, then so be it.... at least they had the ability to choose.

Sincerely,

-Edward Ridout "Ted" McFadden